## Dwarf Wax Myrtle





Super tough tree for difficult situations! Will tolerate standing water!



## Myrica cerifera var. pumila (Myrica pusilla)

- <u>Use:</u> The Dwarf Waxmyrtle makes for a good specimen, screen, small tree, or hedges and has a tolerance to drought, salt, sandy soils, wet soils, and some alkaline conditions. It also has nitrogen-fixing bacteria on root nodules. Popular for use in erosion control for difficult situations. It is an interesting plant for grouping in the corner of a large herb, native, winter, children's, butterfly or pollinator garden. It is also a good selection for stream or pond margins where periodic flooding or drought may occur or on a bank for erosion control. Use it as a barrier, privacy hedge or attractive small tree with lower limbs removed.
- <u>Exposure/Soil</u>: Full/part sun; well-draining soil and appreciates slow release fertilizer. Water regularly when top 3in of soil is dry. Must amend the soil if you have red clay!
- <u>Growth</u>: Has a very full and dense growth habit and gets only 5-6' tall and 5-6' wide. In a landscape this suckering will produce ever thicker, fuller, denser growth, or may be curtailed by pruning or mowing. The plant can be pruned, but keep in mind that next season's fruit will appear on old growth.
- Hardiness: Zone 7-9; shrub
- <u>Foliage</u>: Evergreen. Resinous dots heavily coat both leaf surfaces which are dark green above and brownish or olive beneath, giving a two-toned or glossy olive green appearance which contrasts nicely with dark green plants. The fine-textured wispy foliage makes an excellent pruned hedge, or the plant may be limbed up to make an attractive specimen. New spring growth produces a bayberry scent which is evident on bruised leaves throughout the year.
- *Flowers:* If the plant is a female it will produce grayish white bayberry scented fruits that are covered with a wax which is sometimes used for candle making.

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